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Jersey City Receives Outstanding Plan Award ***City's Master Plan Circulation Element Selected as Finest by the*** ***New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association***

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy**, members of the **Municipal Council** and the **Department of Housing, Economic Development and Commerce/ Division of Planning** announced today that Jersey City has been selected as the recipient of the prestigious **Outstanding Plan Award** for the Jersey City Master Plan Circulation Element. The Circulation Element was recognized as a plan of unusual merit by the **New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association**, a professional organization of city and regional planners.

The Circulation Element of the Jersey City Master Plan is an action-oriented multi modal transportation plan that addresses the present and future mobility needs of people and goods to, from and within Jersey City. It considers current needs while anticipating future development and redevelopment to 2050. The Circulation Element is comprised of text, maps and graphics. Highlights include a vision statement, a series of implementation strategies and an action plan which identifies potential lead agencies and funding sources.

“This is an honor that warrants a great amount of pride,” said **Mayor Healy**. “The Planning Division and its entire staff should be lauded for a job well done. It is essential that we continue to expand the capacity of our transportation system, particularly mass transit, in an effort to improve the quality of life of our residents.”

The new Circulation Element is a result of a two year collaboration of Jersey City staff, a group of consultants, a technical advisory committee and the general public. The effort was spearheaded by the city and included a number of local and regional agencies. The consultant team of T & M Associates, Medina Consultants, Eastland Systems Group and TechniQuest Corporation was selected by committee in December 2007 following an extensive proposal solicitation process.

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Some of the specific recommendations of the Circulation Element include the construction of an off-road alignment for the East Coast Greenway and an extension of the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail across Route 440 to the Bayfront 1 Redevelopment Plan area. Additionally, the process considers the implementation of the recommendations of an ongoing study of local bus service, improved pedestrian safety on Central Avenue and Martin Luther King Drive and traffic signal timing coordination citywide.

The Circulation Element was funded by the City of Jersey City, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority and the New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority. The planning process was led by Project Manager Naomi Hsu, Project Director Douglas Greenfeld of the Department of Housing, Economic Development and Commerce Director's Office, and Planning Director Robert Cotter."

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///